United Nations A/72/476

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 November 2017

Original: English

Seventy-second session
Agenda item 173

Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Peter **Nagy** (Slovakia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly at the request of Uruguay.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 11th and 28th meetings, on 9 October and 3 November 2017. The Committee's consideration of the item is reflected in the relevant summary records.[1]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a letter dated 11 August 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/72/194).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/72/L.6

5. At the 11th meeting, on 9 October, the representative of Uruguay, on behalf of Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Kenya, Peru, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/72/L.6) and announced that Ecuador had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

[1] A/C.6/72/SR.11 and A/C.6/72/SR.28.

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6. At its 28th meeting, on 3 November, the Chair of the Committee announced that the Bureau had been informed that the delegation of Uruguay, on behalf of the sponsors, had requested that the Committee defer a decision on the request for observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly until the seventy-third session of the Assembly.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted a draft decision without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Sixth Committee, decides to defer a decision on the request for observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the Assembly[1] until the seventy-third session of the Assembly.

[1] See A/72/194.